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HOUSE BILL 2929

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Carlson, Huff, Jacobsen, Foreman, Sehlin and Silver

Read first time 01/29/96. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1            AN ACT Relating to telecommunications, telecommunications planning,  
2 and higher education technology; amending 1995 2nd sp.s. c 18 s 903  
3 (uncodified); adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW; and adding a  
4 new chapter to Title 28B RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that up-to-date  
7 technology is a critical ingredient in the preparation of an educated  
8 and knowledgeable work force and citizenry. Expansion and  
9 interconnection of the state's higher education technology is an  
10 activity that merits the support of the state legislature.

11            The development of a state higher education delivery system using  
12 technology will provide great opportunities for change in the delivery  
13 of educational services and deserves due deliberation and coordinated  
14 policy planning to ensure that the high standards of program quality  
15 and efficient service are enhanced.

16            The legislature finds that, in order to facilitate lifelong  
17 learning, educational technology systems must be coordinated among all  
18 educational sectors, with the other entities of federal, state, and  
19 local government, and be readily accessible to the general population

1 of the state. To those ends, the higher education technology advisory  
2 committee is established with the purpose of working in coordination  
3 with other state education technology groups such as the educational  
4 technology advisory committee in RCW 28A.650.015.

5 The higher education coordinating board shall appoint a higher  
6 education technology advisory committee to assist in the development  
7 and implementation of the state's higher education technology plan.  
8 The committee shall include, but is not limited to, persons  
9 representing: The state board of education, the work force training  
10 and education coordinating board, the state board for community and  
11 technical colleges, the council of presidents, the commission on  
12 student learning, the department of information services, educational  
13 service districts, higher education administrators, faculty, classified  
14 staff, secondary education teachers, parents, students, and  
15 representatives of the technology and telecommunication industry.

16 The higher education technology plan shall be developed in  
17 conjunction with and according to the guidelines outlined for the  
18 Washington telecommunications plan.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of information services,  
20 in conjunction with the higher education coordinating board, the state  
21 board for community and technical colleges, the work force training and  
22 education coordinating board, and the state board of education shall  
23 convene the Washington telecommunications forum for the development of  
24 the Washington telecommunications plan. The plan shall be completed by  
25 December 15, 1996, and updated on at least a biennial basis.

26 (2) The Washington telecommunications planning process shall:

27 (a) Be based on and reflect Washington's quality of life;

28 (b) Strengthen Washington's communities and economy;

29 (c) Support education and training opportunities so that  
30 Washington's work force and citizenry can function in the emerging  
31 information society;

32 (d) Recognize the diversity of Washington's regions, and encourage  
33 collaborative regional and community planning efforts;

34 (e) Provide optimum geographic and social distribution of the  
35 benefits of advanced telecommunications services;

36 (f) Include all telecommunications stakeholders, including  
37 providers, consumers, and regulators;

38 (g) Be ongoing and comprehensive;

1 (h) Assure integration of existing and new telecommunications  
2 networks based on open architecture, interconnectivity, and  
3 interoperability;

4 (i) Establish clear goals and benchmarks that can be incorporated  
5 at all levels of the planning process;

6 (j) Actively encourage partnerships among public, private, and  
7 nonprofit entities;

8 (k) Provide the basis for linking state strategy with federal  
9 policy; and

10 (l) Provide the best means for deciding issues such as designing  
11 infrastructure, selecting technologies, or implementation strategies,  
12 and the sensitive questions of access and equity.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) The higher education coordinating board may receive such gifts,  
16 grants, and endowments from public or private sources as may be made  
17 from time to time, in trust or otherwise, for the use and benefit of  
18 the purposes of educational technology and expend the same or any  
19 income therefrom according to the terms of the gifts, grants, or  
20 endowments.

21 (2) The higher education technology account is hereby established  
22 in the custody of the state treasurer. The higher education  
23 coordinating board shall deposit in the account all moneys received  
24 from gifts, grants, or endowments for education technology. Moneys in  
25 the account may be spent only for education technology. Disbursements  
26 from the account shall be on authorization of the executive director of  
27 the board or the executive director's designee. The account is subject  
28 to the allotment procedure provided under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no  
29 appropriation is required for disbursements.

30 **Sec. 4.** 1995 2nd sp.s. c 18 s 903 (uncodified) is amended to read  
31 as follows:

32 (~~(VIDEO—TELECOMMUNICATIONS.)~~) The department of information  
33 services shall act as lead agency in coordinating video  
34 telecommunications services for state agencies. As lead agency, the  
35 department shall develop standards and common specifications for leased  
36 and purchased telecommunications equipment and assist state agencies in  
37 developing a video telecommunications expenditure plan. No agency may

1 spend any portion of any appropriation (~~in this act~~) for new video  
2 telecommunication equipment, new video telecommunication transmission,  
3 or new video telecommunication programming, or for expanding current  
4 video telecommunication systems without first complying with chapter  
5 43.105 RCW, including but not limited to, RCW 43.105.041(2), and  
6 without first submitting a video telecommunications expenditure plan,  
7 in accordance with the policies of the department of information  
8 services, for review and assessment by the department of information  
9 services under RCW 43.105.052. Prior to any such expenditure by a  
10 public school, a video telecommunications expenditure plan shall be  
11 approved by the superintendent of public instruction. The office of  
12 the superintendent of public instruction shall submit the plans to the  
13 department of information services in a form prescribed by the  
14 department. The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
15 shall coordinate the use of video telecommunications in public schools  
16 by providing educational information to local school districts and  
17 shall assist local school districts and educational service districts  
18 in telecommunications planning and curriculum development. Prior to  
19 any such expenditure by a public institution of postsecondary  
20 education, a telecommunications expenditure plan shall be approved by  
21 the higher education coordinating board. The higher education  
22 coordinating board shall coordinate the use of video telecommunications  
23 for instruction and instructional support in postsecondary education,  
24 including the review and approval of instructional telecommunications  
25 course offerings.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1, 2, and 4 of this act shall  
27 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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